

Amendments to the claims:

1. (currently amended) A base plate for a power scroll saw (10), having a through opening (15) for a saw blade (13) that is drivable to a reciprocating motion by the power scroll saw (10), characterized by an integrated guide device (21), with guide elements (22, 23) protruding into the through opening (15) for guiding and bracing the saw blade (13) transversely to its sawing direction, wherein the locking unit (36) has an adjusting button (42), with a clamping wedge (41) secured to said locking unit, that is displaceable on a switch housing in the displacement direction of the pusher (27) counter to the force of a restoring spring and a retaining block (34), secured to the pusher (27), with a run up ramp (40), extending in the displacement direction of the pusher (27), for the clamping wedge (41), wherein said run up ramp cooperates with the wedge face of the clamping wedge (41) for locking the retaining block (34).

2. (currently amended) The base plate in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a work plate (25) is placed in a bottom plate (24) with a surrounding frame (241), embodied for fastening to the power scroll saw (10), and is secured in said bottom plate it; and that the guide device (21) is located between the bottom plate (24) and the work plate (25).

3. (currently amended) The base plate in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide device (21) has a pusher mechanism

(26); and that the guide elements (22, 23) are embodied as pivotable disk segments (30, 31), whose spacing, viewed transversely to the sawing direction, from one another is adjustable by means of the pusher mechanism (26).

4. (currently amended) The base plate in accordance with claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the disk segments (30, 31) are supported pivotably, in regions of the bottom plate (24) and/or work plate (25) diametrically opposite one another at the through opening (15), about pivot axes oriented perpendicular to the bottom plate and work plate (24, 25); that each disk segment (30, 31) is engaged, at a the spacing from a the bearing point (32, 33), by a slide rod (28, 29); and that the slide rods (28, 29) are pivotably connected with transverse spacing from one another to a pusher (27) that is displaceable in the sawing direction.

5. (currently amended) The base plate in accordance with claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide device (21) has a manually releasable locking unit (36) for locking the pusher (27) in its displacement position ~~at the~~ time.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The base plate in accordance with claim 1 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the run up ~~runup~~ ramp (40) is embodied on a

clamping piece (39), which rests in form-locking fashion in a recess (38) in the retaining block (34).

8. (currently amended) The base plate in accordance with claim 1 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the clamping wedge (41) and the retaining block (34) are guided axially displaceably in a switch housing (37) that is retained between the bottom plate (24) and the work plate (25).

9. (currently amended) The base plate in accordance with claim 1 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the restoring spring is braced on the switch housing (37) and on the clamping wedge (41).

10. (currently amended) The base plate in accordance with claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bottom plate (24), in the region of the switch housing (37), has a recess (43), in which the retaining block (34) can be engaged for displacement in the switch housing (37).

11. (currently amended) A power scroll saw having a housing (11) and a motor-driven saw blade (13), ~~drivable by a motor to a reciprocating motion,~~ characterized by a base plate (20) ~~in accordance with claim 1,~~ said base plate having a through opening (15) for a saw blade (13) that is drivable to a reciprocating motion by the power scroll saw (10), characterized by an integrated guide device (21), with guide elements (22, 23) protruding into the through

opening (15) for guiding and bracing the saw blade (13) transversely to its sawing direction, wherein the locking unit (36) has an adjusting button (42), with a clamping wedge (41) secured to said locking unit, that is displaceable on a switch housing [noun missing] in the displacement direction of the pusher (27) counter to the force of a restoring spring and a retaining block (34), secured to the pusher (27), with a run up ~~run up~~ ramp (40), extending in the displacement direction of the pusher (27), for the clamping wedge (41), wherein said run up ramp cooperates with the wedge face of the clamping wedge (41) for locking the retaining block (34).